

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CAIRO 09299 191030Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O 191006Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6571

CONFIDENTIAL CAIRO 9299

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID EG US

SUBJECT: ANTICIPATED CALL ON MINFINANCE ABU ISMAIL

REF: STATE 218980

1. I AM ARRANGING CALL ON MINFINANCE ABU ISMAIL NEXT WEEK TO DISCUSS THE REFERENCE SUBJECT. IT IS SIMPLY NOT A PRACTICAL MATTER TO EXPECT THAT ALL FIVE OF THE MINISTERS MENTIONED REFTEL WILL ASSEMBLE TO HEAR A LECTURE FROM ME ON THE STATUS OF OUR EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE EFFORTS. I WILL HAVE TO TELL THEM INDIVIDUALLY. ADMITTEDLY, THIS COULD GIVE RISE TO DIFFERING INTERPRETATIONS, BUT THAT POSSIBILITY ALWAYS EXISTS WHEN DEALING WITH TWO OR MORE EGYPTIANS TOGETHER OR SEPARATELY. ABU ISMAIL IS THE MAN WHO SHOULD IN THE FIRST INSTANCE HAVE THE FACTS.

2. IN CAIRO 9222, I HAVE ALREADY ASKED FOR AN INDICATION OF VARIOUS ARREARAGES SO THAT I CAN BE SPECIFIC WITH ABU ISMAIL WHEN STRESSING THE NEED FOR TIMELY PAYMENT OF OUTSTANDING AND FUTURE OBLIGATIONS TO US.

3. SINCE ABU ISMAIL MAY BE EXPECTED ASK ABOUT WHEN WE WILL BE PREPARED TO SIGN THE DOLS 80 MILLION PL 480 TITLE I WHEAT LOAN AND THE DOLS 100 MILLION CIP LOAN, BOTH OF WHICH HE KNOWS ABOUT, I ALSO

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NEED AN ANSWER TO THIS QUESTION. I RECALL THAT

WHEN IN WASHINGTON ABOUT A MONTH AGO, IT WAS SUGGESTED TO ME THAT THERE MIGHT BE A SEVERAL WEEKS DELAY IN THE PL 480 WHEAT AGREEMENT AND INDICATED MY PERSONAL VIEW THAT A SHORT DELAY COULD BE EXPLAINED. THE SUMMER IS NOW VIRTUALLY OVER AND THE EGYPTIANS HAVE DISTRIBUTED ALL THE WHEAT WE PREVIOUSLY PROVIDED. THEY ARE ANXIOUS TO PROCEED WITH ADDITIONAL WHEAT PROCUREMENT ASAP.

4. WITH SHORTFALLS IN HOPED FOR FRG AND JAPANESE EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE, IT IS IMPORTANT FOR CONFIDENCE BUILDING PURPOSES THAT WE SCRUPULOUSLY ADHERE TO TIMING OF OUR OWN COMMITMENTS. WOULD BE HELPFUL TO HAVE ABOVE INFORMATION BY OPENING OF BUSINESS MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22.

EILTS

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